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The Honorable John C. Coughenour

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REPLY SUPPORTING MOTION TO STRIKE PORTIONS OF SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT - 1 Case No. 2:18-cv-01456-JCC

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Defendants U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for GSR Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-4F, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-4F and Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper reply supporting their motion to strike portions of plaintiff Guirguis a/k/a George El-Shawary's second amended complaint, ECF No. 62.

Introduction

I.

Mr. El-Shawary concedes he took liberties in filing his second amended complaint, adding "update[s]" to address events allegedly occurring after the court granted leave to amend. He asks this court to overlook this flagrant violation of Rule 15 because his new allegations are "not redundant," "not immaterial," "not impertinent" and "cannot reasonably be denied." The court should reject his arguments. The court allowed Mr. El-Shawary to file his proposed second amended complaint with updates to account for the order granting in part and denying in part U.S. Bank and Nationstar's motion for judgment on the pleadings. It did not grant leave to add any and all claims and allegations Mr. El-Shawary desired. The court should strike all allegations beyond the scope of leave to amend.

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II. ARGUMENT

Mr. El-Shawary asks this court to decline to strike his new allegations because they are "not redundant," "not immaterial," and "not impertinent." (ECF No. 63 at 6-8.) He protests these allegations are "not redundant" because they "do not repeat facts occurring prior to February of 2020 when the proposed second amended complaint was filed." (*Id.* at 6.) He claims they are "not immaterial" and "not impertinent" because they support his "additional CPA claim" and "his claim . . . defendants' participation [in the recent FFA mediation] lacked the statutorily required good faith[.]" (*See* id. at 7.) These arguments are red herrings. Mr. El-Shawary never obtained leave to add allegations post-dating the proposed second complaint. Nor did he obtain leave to file a new CPA claim, or assert any claims arising from the recent FFA mediation.

Mr. El-Shawary's prejudice argument is equally meritless. (ECF No. 63 at 8-9.) According to Mr. El-Shawary, the court should find his new allegations cannot cause prejudice because they "are . . . within the ambit of Nationstar's personal knowledge" and "cannot

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1900 Sixteenth Street, Suite 1700 Denver, Colorado 80202 Telephone: 303-260-7712 reasonably be denied." (*Id.* at 8-9.) This asks the court to disregard Rule 15's requirement parties must seek leave to amend. It also overlooks the fact discovery has closed, the dispositive motions deadline is weeks away, and Nationstar and U.S. Bank have had zero opportunity to investigate Mr. El-Shawary's new allegations, including, for instance, his demand "for a total compensation of over \$289,835.15" on his new CPA claim. (ECF No. 62-1 at ¶98.) Nationstar and U.S. Bank should not be subject to trial by ambush. The federal rules do not allow it. *See e.g., Woods v. Int'l Harvester Co.*, 697 F.2d 635, 639 (5th Cir. 1983) ("[T]rial by ambush is not contemplated by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.")

Mr. El-Shawary cites *Colaprico* for the proposition motions to strike "should not be granted unless it is clear that the subject matter to be stricken could have no possible bearing on the subject matter of the litigation." (ECF No. 63 at 6.) *Colaprico* is inapposite. There the court did not address whether the plaintiff exceeded the scope of leave to amend. *See Colaprico v. Sun Microsys., Inc.*, 758 F. Supp. 1335, 1349 (N.D. Cal. 1991).

Mr. El-Shawary's argument *Bykov* "does not change the outcome here" because "[c]ollateral estoppel was the reason the court granted the motion to strike" is incorrect as well. (ECF No. 53 at 9.) In *Bykov*, the court "constrained Plaintiff's leave to amend his pleadings to assertions that do not contradict judicially noticed records," which included "rulings pertaining to Plaintiff's probation hearings and appeals." *Bykov v. Rosen*, No. C15-0713-JCC, 2017 WL 5756593, at 1 (W.D. Wash. Nov. 28, 2017). The court struck the portions of the second amended complaint that were inconsistent with its order—*i.e.*, those the Ninth Circuit previously found barred by collateral estoppel. *Id.* at *2. It did not apply collateral estoppel to strike certain allegations as Mr. El-Shawary claims. (ECF No. 53 at 9.) It instead struck the "portions of the SAC that clearly and directly contradict [the court's] limitations as immaterial and impertinent." *Bykov*, 2017 WL 5756593, at *2.

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1 Finally, the court should strike the new allegations supporting Mr. El-Shawary's 2 FDCPA claim (i.e., paragraph 117 of the SAC) despite Mr. El-Shawary's argument "the adjustments made . . . conform[] with the Court's order[s]." (ECF No. 63 at 5 n.1.) The court 3 4 dismissed this claim without prejudice then stated, "If plaintiff wishes to amend his complaint, 5 he may seek leave to amend[.]" (ECF No. 51 at 7.) Mr. El-Shawary did not seek leave to amend after the court entered its order, he just added new allegations supporting his claim. 6 7 (ECF No. 62-1 at ¶117.) III. 8 CONCLUSION 9 Mr. El-Shawary admittedly filed a pleading exceeding the scope of leave to amend. 10 The court should strike the offending allegations, i.e., paragraphs 36 to 53, 82 to 93 and 117 11 from the second amended complaint, ECF No. 54. 12 /// 13 /// 14 /// 15 /// 16 /// 17 18 /// 19 /// 20 /// 21 /// 22 /// 23 24 /// 25 ¹ U.S. Bank and Nationstar's motion incorrectly stated the SAC does not include the FDCPA 26 claim resolved by the order granting in part and denying in part their motion for judgment on 27 the pleadings. (ECF No. 62 at 3:23-24.) Mr. El-Shawary did re-file this claim. (See ECF No. 62-1 at ¶¶115-31.) Page 3, lines 23-24 of U.S. Bank and Nationstar's motion should instead 28 read: "The pleading does not include the RESPA and professional negligence claims resolved by the motion for judgment on the pleadings . . . " AKERMAN LLP REPLY SUPPORTING MOTION TO STRIKE PORTIONS

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OF SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT - 4

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Respectfully submitted, this the 21st day of August, 2020. 1 2 **WITHERSPOON · KELLEY** 3 /s/ Christopher G. Varallo Christopher G. Varallo, WSBA #29410 4 Steven J. Dixson, WSBA #38101 5 cgv@witherspoonkelley.com sjd@witherspoonkelley.com 6 422 W. Riverside Avenue, Suite 1100 7 Spokane, WA 99201-0300 Phone: (509) 624-5265 8 Fax: (509) 458-2728 9 AKERMAN LLP 10 /s/ Taylor T. Haywood 11 Taylor T. Haywood, Admitted Pro Hac Vice taylor.haywood@akerman.com 12 1900 Sixteenth Street, Suite 1700 13 Denver, Colorado 80202 Phone: (303) 260-7712 14 Facsimile: (303) 260-7714 15 Attorneys for defendants U.S. Bank National 16 Association, as Trustee for GSR Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-4F Mortgage Pass-Through 17 Certificates Series 2006-4 and Nationstar Mortgage LLC 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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